

KAISER'S REPLY IS AN EVASION

PRESIDENT WILSON'S NOTE ON
SUBMARINE ISSUE STILL
UNANSWERED.

ADMITS TORPEDOING SUSSEX

Urges U. S. to Insist on Great Britain
Living Up to Rules of Interna-
tional Law—Makes Some
Ungracious Concessions.

Washington, D. C.—After waiting several weeks for the Kaiser's reply to President Wilson's last note on the submarine issue, the following document was handed to Ambassador Gerard on the afternoon of May 4:

"The undersigned, on behalf of the Imperial German government, has the honor to present to his excellency, the ambassador of the United States, Mr. James W. Gerard, the following reply to the note of April 26 regarding the conduct of German submarine warfare. The German government has handed over to the proper naval authorities, for early investigation, the evidence concerning the Sussex, as communicated by the government of the United States. Judging by the results that the investigation has hitherto yielded, the German government is alive to the possibility that the ship mentioned in the note of April 19 as having been torpedoed by a German submarine is actually identical with the Sussex.

"The German government begs to reserve further communication on the matter until certain points are ascertained, which are of decisive importance for establishing the facts of the case. Should it turn out that the commander was wrong in assuming the vessel to be a man-of-war, the German government will not fail to draw the consequences resulting therefrom.

"In connection with the case of the Sussex, the government of the United States made a series of statements, the gist of which is the assertion that the incident is to be considered but one instance of a deliberate method of indiscriminate destruction of vessels of all sorts, nationalities and destinations by German submarine commanders.

Repudiates American Assertion.
"The German government must emphatically repudiate the assertion. The German government, however, thinks it of little avail to enter into details in the present stage of affairs, more particularly as the government of the United States omitted to substantiate the assertion by reference to concrete facts.

"The German government will only state that it has imposed far-reaching restraints upon the use of the submarine weapon, solely in consideration of the fact that the restrictions are necessary of advantage to Germany's enemies. No such consideration has ever been shown neutrals by Great Britain and her allies.

"The German submarine forces have had, in fact, orders to conduct the submarine warfare in accordance with the general principles of visit and search and the destruction of merchant vessels recognized by international law, the sole exception being the conduct of warfare against enemy trade carried on enemy freight ships encountered in the war zone surrounding Great Britain. With regard to these no assurances have been given to the government of the United States. No such assurances are contained in the declaration of Feb. 3, 1915.

"The German government cannot admit any doubt that these orders were given or are executed in good faith. Errors actually occurred. They can, in no kind of warfare, be avoided altogether. Allowances must be made in the conduct of naval warfare against an enemy resorting to all kinds of ruses, whether permissible or illicit.

"But apart from the possibility of errors, naval warfare, just like warfare on land, implies unavoidable dangers for neutral persons and goods entering the fighting zone. Even in cases where the naval action is confined to ordinary forms of cruiser warfare, neutral persons and goods repeatedly come to grief.

"The German government has repeatedly and explicitly pointed out the dangers from mines that have led to the loss of numerous ships.

Offers Further Concession.

"The German government has made several proposals to the government of the United States in order to reduce to a minimum for American travelers and goods the inherent dangers of naval warfare. Unfortunately, the government of the United States decided not to accept the proposals. Had it accepted, the government of the United States would have been instrumental in preventing the greater part of the accidents that American citizens have met with in maritime.

"The German government still stands by its offer to come to an agreement along these lines.

"As the German government repeatedly declared, it cannot dispense with the use of the submarine weapon in the conduct of warfare against enemy trade. The German govern-

ment, however, has now decided to make a further concession, adapting methods of submarine war to the interests of neutrals.

"In reaching this decision the German government is actuated by considerations which are above the level of the disputed question.

"In self-defense against the illegal conduct of British warfare while fighting a bitter struggle for national existence, Germany had to resort to the hard but effective weapon of submarine warfare.

"The German government attaches no less importance to the sacred principles of humanity than the government of the United States. It again fully takes into account that both governments for many years co-operated in developing international law in conformity with these principles, the ultimate object of which has always been to confine warfare on sea and land to armed forces of belligerents and safeguard as far as possible non-combatants against the horrors of war. Although these considerations are of great weight, they alone would not under the present circumstances have determined the attitude of the German government.

"For, in answer to the appeal by the government of the United States on both of the sacred principles of humanity and international law, the German government must repeat once more with all emphasis that it was not the German, but the British government which ignored all accepted rules of international law and extended this terrible war to the lives and property of non-combatants, having no regard whatever for the interests and rights of neutrals and non-combatants that, through this method of warfare, have been severely injured.

Discrimination is Charged.

"As matters stand, the German government cannot but reiterate regret that the sentiments of humanity, which the government of the United States extend with such fervor to the unhappy victims of submarine warfare, are not extended with the same warmth of feeling to many millions of women and children, who, according to the avowed intention of the British government, shall be starved and who, by sufferings, shall force the victorious armies of the central powers into ignominious capitulation.

"The German government, in agreement with the German people, fails to understand this discrimination, all the more as it has repeatedly and explicitly declared itself ready to use the submarine weapon in strict conformity with the rules of international law as recognized before the outbreak of the war, if Great Britain likewise was ready to adapt the conduct of warfare to these rules.

"Several attempts made by the government of the United States to prevail upon the British government to act accordingly failed because of flat refusal of the British government. Moreover, Great Britain again and again has violated international law, surpassing all bounds in outraging neutral rights. The latest measure, adopted by Great Britain, declaring German bunker coal contraband and establishing conditions under which English bunker coal alone is supplied to neutrals is nothing but an unheard-of attempt by way of evasion to force neutral tonnage into the service of British trade war.

Reason for Its Concessions.

"The German people know that the government of the United States has the power to confine the war to armed forces of the belligerent countries in the interest of humanity and maintenance of international law. The government of the United States would have been certain of attaining this end had it been determined to insist against Great Britain on the incontestable rights of freedom of the seas. But as matters stand the German people are under the impression that the government of the United States, while demanding that Germany, struggling for existence, shall restrain the use of an effective weapon and while making compliance with these demands a condition for maintenance of relations with Germany, confines itself to protests against illegal methods adopted by Germany's enemies.

"Moreover, the German people know to what considerable extent its enemies are supplied with all kinds of war material from the United States.

"It will, therefore, be understood that the appeal made by the government of the United States to sentiments of humanity and principles of international law cannot, under the circumstances, meet the same hearty response from the German people which such an appeal otherwise always is certain to find here. If the German government, nevertheless, is resolved to go to the utmost limit of concessions, it has been guided, not alone by the friendship connecting the two great nations for over 100 years, but also by the thought of the great doom which threatens the entire civilized world should the cruel and sanguinary war be extended and prolonged.

"The German government, conscious of Germany's strength, twice within the last few months announced before the world its readiness to make peace on a basis of safeguarding Germany's vital interests, thus indicating that it is not Germany's fault if peace is still withheld from the nations of Europe. The German government feels all the more justified in declaring that responsibility could not be borne before the forum of mankind and in history if, after 21 months of the war's duration, the

submarine question under discussion between the German government and the government of the United States were to take a turn seriously threatening maintenance of peace between the two nations.

"As far as lies with the German government it wishes to prevent things from taking such a course. The German government, moreover, is prepared to do its utmost to confine operations of the war for the rest of its duration to the fighting forces of the belligerents, thereby also insuring freedom of the seas, a principle upon which the German government believes, now, as before, that it is in agreement with the government of the United States.

"The German government, guided by this idea, notifies the government of the United States that the German naval forces have received the following order:

"In accordance with the general principles of visit and search and the destruction of merchant vessels recognized by international law, each vessel, both within and without the area declared a naval war zone, shall not be sunk without warning and without saving human lives unless the ship attempts to escape or offers resistance.

"But neutrals cannot expect that Germany, forced to fight for existence, shall for the sake of neutral interests restrict the use of an effective weapon if the enemy is permitted to continue to apply at will methods of warfare violating rules of international law. Such a demand would be incompatible with the character of neutrality, and the German government is convinced that the government of the United States does not think of making such a demand, knowing that the government of the United States repeatedly declares that it is determined to restore the principle of freedom of the seas, from whatever quarter it has been violated.

Awaits Demands on Britain.

"Accordingly, the German government is confident that, in consequence of the new orders issued to the naval forces, the government of the United States will also now consider all impediments removed which may have been in the way of mutual co-operation toward restoration of the freedom of the seas during the war, as suggested in the note of July 23, 1915, and it does not doubt that the government of the United States will now demand and insist that the British government shall forthwith observe the rules of international law universally recognized before the war, as are laid down in the notes presented by the government of the United States to the British government, Dec. 26, 1914, and Nov. 3, 1915.

"Should steps be taken by the government of the United States not to attain the object it desires, to have the laws of humanity followed by the belligerent nations, the German government would then be facing a new situation in which it must reserve to itself complete liberty of decision.

"The undersigned avails himself of this opportunity to renew to the American ambassador assurances of highest consideration.

The name of Dr. von Jarow, the secretary of state for foreign affairs in the German government, was signed to the German note.

The German note of July 3, 1915, proposed that American passenger steamers be made recognizable by special markings, and that notification of their sailing be given in advance. It also proposed to install in transatlantic service, under the American flag, a number of the German steamers now interned in American ports.

This communication also suggested that the president of the United States make proposals to Great Britain with reference to the conduct of naval warfare, which might bring about an agreement between the belligerents.

The American notes to the British government of Dec. 26, 1914, and Nov. 3, 1915, were strong complaints made by the American government on the interference with American and other neutral trade by the allies, in which the charge was made that the allies were violating international law. There have been several exchanges between the two governments and the differences are still at issue.

The order of Feb. 8 was the notification that "armed merchantmen" would be sunk without warning.

Free Concert.

"Hello," said a voice at the other end of the phone. "Is that the night clerk?"

"Yes," replied that functionary.

"What can I do for you?"

"I want you to send somebody up and make that man in the next room stop snoring. I can't sleep a wink."

"What room are you in?" asked the clerk.

"No. 53. It's the man in No. 51 who is doing the snoring."

"But, my dear sir," said the clerk, "do you realize that the man in No. 51 is Signor Squallerini, the famous tenor, and that we are not charging you a cent extra for the privilege of hearing him?"

A Mean Trick.

"I wasn't able to match that piece of goods for you," said hubby. "I tried six different stores, and they all told me they hadn't had anything like that in stock for five years."

"I knew that all the time," said wife. "I just wanted to prove to you that my best dress is hopelessly out of style. You wouldn't believe it when I told you."

BOARD IS CALLED BEFORE GRAND JURY

MANAGERS OF TUBERCULOSIS
SANATORIUM MUST GO BE-
FORE INQUISITORS.

MEMBERS PRESERVE SILENCE

Expense Account of Several Mem-
bers of Staff Need Investigation,
According to Prosecutor of
Lawrence County.

Jefferson City.
Members of the board of managers of the state Tuberculosis Sanatorium after being served with subpoenas to appear before the Lawrence County grand jury, refused to discuss the alleged irregularities in the management charged in the last few days.

The board was in session behind closed doors when a request was sent in for a statement from the board or from individual members, regarding the allegations. Dr. J. L. Eaton of Bloomer, president of the board, came from the room with the statement that the members had decided to say nothing.

Subpoenas were issued for Dr. Eaton, Dr. J. H. Buford of Ellington, Dr. T. C. Dusenbury of Monett, Dr. E. W. Schaeffer of Kansas City and S. H. Minor of Aurora, all members of the board, Dr. C. C. English, superintendent of the sanatorium, and T. W. Bourne, prison agent in Mount Vernon.

Subpoena for St. Louisan.

Later Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Robert Steinhorn obtained a subpoena for H. H. Hohenschild, president of the Night and Day Bank of St. Louis, arbitrated for the board of managers.

It is known from a line of investigation the prosecutor has conducted for two days, that his grand jury inquiry will go into the details of the boxing and shipping of chairs belonging to the institution to members of the board into the payment of expenses by Dr. Eaton and Hohenschild to San Francisco in November, 1915. Into the expense accounts of several members of the board and into the alleged shipping of chairs patients. It is known that he intends to require the production before the grand jury of the financial records of the sanatorium. Access to these records was refused, a St. Louis newspaper reporter by W. N. Marbut, treasurer of the sanatorium.

Crop Conditions Poor.

Despite unfavorable weather conditions, almost one-fifth of the state corn crop had been planted by the first of May, according to the Missouri crop report issued from the office of the state board of agriculture. The report is as follows:

Farm work in Missouri in April was retarded by continued cool and cloudy weather. There is need of warmth and sunshine. The growth of vegetation is being retarded, and much seed that has been planted is germinating slowly. Soil condition is 52 as compared with 51 a year ago.

Corn—Nineteen per cent of the Missouri corn crop has been planted, and this indicates favorable progress, as the 10-year average shows but 24 per cent of the crop usually planted by May 1. Estimates show an increase of 8 per cent in acreage over the 1915 area.

Wheat—Early in April wheat gave promise of improvement, but later rains showed a loss rather than gain, and the state shows a loss of 3 points for the month. Present condition is 62.8, a year ago it was 50, and the 10-year average is 54.8. It is estimated that 15 per cent of the crop sown in the fall of 1915 will be replaced by other crops.

Oats—Practically the entire oat crop has been seeded. Acreage shows 1064 as compared with the area for 1915. Condition for the entire state stands at 89.

Other Crops—Condition of all clover 85.5. New clover is in good condition. Timothy is 82. Alfalfa is 80.2. Cotton will show an increased acreage of 10 per cent. A large per cent of the crops have been planted, and the outlook for a general fruit crop is 79, with the apple prospects excellent.

Read File for Renomination.

Wenior Reed of Missouri has filed with Third Assistant Postmaster General Dockery, treasurer of the Missouri Democratic committee, a declaration of his candidacy for renomination in the August primaries. John T. Wayland has also filed the declaration of his candidacy for state and federal offices. Wayland is assistant sergeant-at-arms in the United States senate.

Corators Borrow Money.

Professors and employees of the Missouri University have received their salaries through temporary arrangements between the university curators and certain Columbia bankers. This arrangement was made necessary through the failure of the state officials to send money to meet current expenses.

The agreement of the bankers is to cash warrants of those professors and employees who do business with the banks of Columbia. This agreement will end in June.

Monthly Report Suppressed.

The report of the transactions and condition of the state treasury for April was filed by Treasurer Deal with Governor Major on the 1st, following the requirements of the law, but contrary to custom, the figures were withheld from the newspaper correspondents.

A facsimile of the treasurer's report, prepared from the books of the state auditor, covering April, was also filed with the governor, but this, too, was not made public.

No explanation was given as to why the two reports were withheld, except that instructions had been given that the figures were not to be given out.

That the general revenue fund is "cramped" after the payment of the civil list covering salaries for April, there is no doubt, but what purpose is served by refusing to make public the monthly statement is not apparent.

Auditor Gordon was out of town, and his chief clerk, Willard King, stated instructions had been received from Gordon not to give out the figures.

There has been a standing order for several months from Treasurer Deal that the figures of the monthly report must be kept secret.

One Bidder for State Printing.

Although bids for the state printing contract were not opened, it is practically certain that the contract will be awarded to the Hugh Stephens Printing Co. of Jefferson City again, as no other bids had been received up to the time of opening the bids.

Secretary of State Rouch and Auditor Gordon, two members of the commission were out of town and the opening of the bids was postponed. After a letter had been received by members of the board from Charles Hertenstein, demanding, on behalf of the St. Louis Typographical Union, that the contract should not be given to Stephens, the bookbinders' union, the typographical union and the union of pressmen all of Jefferson City, had adopted resolutions condemning Hertenstein's protest, and declaring that the Stephens Company is on the best of terms with organized labor.

Conference on Crossings.

Representatives of railroads centering at various points throughout the state and the public service commission have been holding a series of conferences relative to the elimination of dangerous grade crossings. The railroads agree that the subway elimination of the crossings would be preferable to viaducts. At some of the points in dispute viaducts would run a large portion of the value of adjacent property, while the same is not true of the subway scheme. City representatives are agreed that any method of elimination is desirable. The conference came to no decision, but will resume deliberations on the 15th of May, at which time additional testimony will be heard from both sides.

May Change the Funds.

Governor Major's recent recommendation in his statement on state finances that the surplus of the money paid in by the taxpayers of Missouri for interest on the school certificates of indebtedness, be transferred by law to the revenue fund, so that it may be available for state expenses, offers a solution of a vexing question.

The last legislature, upon the recommendation of Treasurer Deal, reduced the tax rate on the school certificates of indebtedness from 2 to 1 cent on the \$100.

The governor says there are \$914,356.22 surplus in this fund and that it is constantly growing and that it cannot be used for any other purpose than that for which people pay it in.

Fire in Penitentiary Plant.

A small fire was discovered in a clothing factory operated by the state at the penitentiary, but it was extinguished before any damage was done. It was due to a defective electric wire.

Bond Issue Proposed.

Application was filed with the state public service commission by the St. (Cotton Belt Route) for an authority to issue bonds to the amount of \$825,000.

Governor Major Returns.

Governor Elliott W. Major has returned from quite an extensive tour through the southeast and south in the interest of good roads, which subject is closest to his heart. Of course it is said that he also did his share of campaigning while he was absent on the trip.

New Aspirant for Governor.

One more Democratic hat was cast into the ring when Judge Robert M. Reynolds of Marshall, Mo., announced he would become a candidate for the gubernatorial nomination. The judge's friends urged him to run.

Seek Murderess' Parole.

An effort was made here to secure a parole for Aggie Myers of Kansas City, who is serving a life sentence in the penitentiary for the murder of her husband, Clarence Myers, a Kansas City printer, more than 12 years ago. Judge W. E. Fowler of Excelsior Springs presented the plea for clemency to Gov. Major and the latter referred the matter to the state board of pardons and paroles.

The woman and her paramour, Frank Hotman planned and executed the murder of her husband.

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"Yes."
"Well, if that's the case you'll have to pay in advance."

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Be sure to ask for the double strength Cuticura, as this is sold under guarantee of money back if it fails to remove freckles.—Adv.

Some Success.

"How are you getting on in your pursuit of that bandit?"
"Very well," replied the Mexican general. "By skilful strategy we have prevented him from capturing any of us."

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